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ALEXANDRIA:  
SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 3, 1859.

EXECUTION OF JOHN BROWN.—John Brown, convicted of conspiracy, murder, and treason, was, according to sentence, executed at Charlestown yesterday, at 11 o'clock, by being hung by the neck until he was dead.

He maintained his calmness, according to the accounts, to the last, and addressed those who could hear him, at length. The military and police regulations preserved order—there was no attempt at a rescue—and the majesty and authority of the law were fully asserted. His crimes were great, but as he knowingly perilled his life, when he embarked in them, and knew exactly what would be his fate, if unsuccessful, there can be no regret for the result, or for the end of his career. He will live in history, not as a martyr, but as branded with the just sentence of the law which consigned him to an ignominious end. He struck at the peace of society, the supremacy of the law, the safety of our institutions, the harmony of the States, and the lives of our citizens, and he richly merited the punishment he has received.

A letter in the Baltimore American, from Charlestown, written a day or two before the execution of Brown, says that a good deal of unpopularity was beginning to prevail there, at "the fuss, and feathers and excitement kept up," and gives the copy of a mock proclamation that was posted up, advising that "generals, colonels, majors, captains and other officers, being more numerous than the rank and file, should remain in their quarters during an attack, so that citizens and soldiers may not be 'incommode' in the discharge of their duties."

By permission of the State authorities, the wife of John Brown, arrived at Charlestown, on Thursday last, in a carriage from Harper's Ferry, escorted by mounted troops.—Every attention was accorded her consistent with the respect of Virginians for the character of the woman, however unfortunate.—The troops formed in a hollow square in front of the jail when she alighted. The interview of the husband and wife took place in presence of the sheriff. An embrace, a kiss, but no tear was shed. She returned under escort to Harper's Ferry at 8 o'clock, where she was to await the reception of the body of her husband.

Some one has put in circulation an appeal addressed "to the Irish friends of the South in Northern cities," declaring that "the South looks to its Irish friends in its favor," by cities to effect a diversion in its favor, "by burning a large factory, or plethoric store, or immense granary, in New York or Boston" whenever "a haystack or a cotton gin is burned at the South by free soil emissaries." The South desires no "circular" aids. It leaves that to Abolition incendiaries.

In Mr. Crittenden's speech to the Whig General Committee of New York, recently, he said:—"He had always heard it said that the greatest darkness prevailed before the dawn. Who could say whether a glorious dawn was not about to break for the Whig party, and that a great light was not at hand, shining upon them which would repay them all for the past?"

Volunteer companies, to be uniformed and equipped, and well drilled, composed of young men subject to militia duty, continue to be organized all over the State. The means and material for defence, in Virginia, will be greater, in three months, than they ever have been before.

The Philadelphia Ledger says, that "those who are driving the Southern States into their present attitude by the countenance they give to such fanatics as Brown and his confederates, have probably never stopped to survey calmly the consequences. A civil war will involve them quite as fatally as a servile insurrection will Virginia."

The report of the refusal of the Chinese to conform to the provisions of the treaty lately made with them, by the American Minister, takes us by surprise.

There have been some arrests of suspicious characters in Charlestown. One of them was brought on Wednesday from Winchester, and some said that he was Copic's brother, and others that he was a son of John Brown. He was not, however, identified, and was not taken before the prisoners, as was the wish of those who arrested him. Without, therefore, ascertaining who he really was, he was sent back to Winchester, and ordered to be detained in jail there, for the present. As is usual in such cases, the greatest variety of rumors were in circulation in reference to him. It was reported that he had travelled under the names of Copic and Merriam.—His story is nearly as follows: "My name is Julian Merrill, of Delaware county N. Y. I arrived in Alexandria on the 29th of September, 1859.—During last winter I was in Virginia, and lived with Jervis Bailey, Esq., near Falls Church, in Fairfax county. After leaving Fairfax county, passed through Leesburg, leaving there a satchel with clothes, at the Eagle Hotel, to a point near Moorfield, Hardy county, Va., where I was living at the time of the execution of Harper's Ferry. He was arrested near Timberville, Rockingham county, Va. He admits that he carried charges him with tampering with slaves, and neither denies nor admits the justness of the charge. The witnesses against him say he arrived by his own acknowledgments, in Alexandria, on the first of October. He came to Cunningham's, a gentleman in Hardy county, the Friday following the Harper's Ferry affair. Mr. Swann, the proprietor of the hotel in Edinburgh, Rockingham county, Va., as also his lady, recognize him, and state that some six weeks ago he stopped with them, and through the negroes they learned he was making inquiries living in or near that there were abolitionists living in or near that locality. His accounts are much confused, and he makes many contradictory statements.

## News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the times." There appears to be some uneasiness at Frederick, Md., growing out of Harper's Ferry rebellion. The Frederick Union of yesterday says:—"For the last week this city has been visited by an extraordinary number of itinerants of every professed calling and occupation. Teachers of everything, vendors of all sorts of merchandise, drummers for new publications and books, peddlers the occupation of Cook in this country for several months) until at last there are now here no one knows how many strangers with no visible means of support. For several nights past attempts have been made to reconnoitre, if not to break into the barracks, in which some seven hundred stand of arms are deposited. In consequence of this, we understand that the judge has ordered the sheriff to protect that point, and the latter has therefore called out the volunteer companies to perform that duty."

The Victoria Tubular Bridge at Montreal, two miles in length, is a fixed fact. The first locomotive crossed over it on the 24th ult., and it will be opened for regular travel on the 19th inst. The engineer is A. M. Ross, and the builder J. H. Hodges. Its entire cost is \$6,500,000. There are 24 piers, composed of three millions of blocks of solid masonry. The total weight of the tubes, which are all of iron, is 8,000 tons. The shipping pass under them. This is the last link in the Grand Trunk Railway, one thousand miles long and in running order, the longest continuous line in the world.

The United States steamship Mohawk, Capt. Craven, has towed into Key West the slave brig Cygnus, supposed to have been commanded by Capt. Gunnison, an Englishman. She was taken by Capt. Craven on the 18th of November, a few miles from Sagua. She had got rid of her slaves within a few hours of her seizure, as the fire, still burning in her galley, indicated a last and recent abandonment. She has been taken in charge by the authorities, and will be condemned and sold.

The opposition members of the Pennsylvania delegation in Congress, held a consultation in Philadelphia, on Wednesday night, upon an invitation issued by the State committee, for the purpose of considering the best mode of facilitating the organization of the House of Representatives. After a full interchange of opinions, it was unanimously resolved to invite a conference of all the opponents of the present national administration at Washington, on Saturday evening.

At the sixth anniversary meeting of the Southern Aid Society in New York, on Monday evening, the annual statement was read by Mr. Stiles, showing that the society disbursed last year in aid of Southern Churches and Missionaries \$15,000. Dr. S. H. Cox delivered a characteristic address on slavery and John Brown, taking decidedly conservative grounds, and advocating the perpetuity of the American Union, as a means of disseminating the Gospel.

The Philadelphia Press says that Rev. Henry A. Wise who has recently become a resident of that city, has already taken a high stand amongst the pulpit orators of his age. His sermons (which are delivered without notes, or at least any reference to them) are remarkable for their terseness of style, and chaste and fervid eloquence.

George W. Dobbin recovered a verdict for \$7,000 in the United States Circuit Court at Pittsburgh, on Monday, against Allegheny county, Pa., for interest on bonds issued to the Pittsburgh and Connellsville and Pittsburgh and Steubenville Railroad Companies. Like verdicts were entered in six other similar cases.

The medical students in Philadelphia are beginning to become quite notorious, as well as in some other places. On Friday, a couple of them were committed to jail for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. They went to church on Thanksgiving evening, departed themselves in a scandalous manner, and beat one of the Wardens.

Stephen H. Branch, who some time ago fled from New York, to escape prosecutions for libel, has re-appeared, and publishes a most penitent letter, stating that he is in the deepest condition of poverty, and begging forgiveness and remission of punishment.

A building is in course of erection in Peoria, which, when completed, will cover three acres of land all under one roof. It is intended for the manufacture of pottery-ware, and when fully completed and in operation, will constitute the largest establishment for that business in the world.

"Blue-eyed Mary," a courtesan of St. Louis, was buried in that city the other day, only the driver of the hearse and a negro sexton accompanying the body to the grave. Five years ago she was the respected and lovely daughter of a wealthy merchant of that city, but went astray.

Large quantities of white wax have been coming ashore on the coast of Texas during the past month. One man on Matagorda Bay has realized nine hundred dollars on what he has picked up. This wax is supposed to have come from a Spanish vessel recently lost in the Gulf.

The most important item of intelligence from Europe is that Garibaldi has resigned the command of the central army of Italy, and entered the service of the King of Sardinia. The cause or motive for this course on the part of the great Italian chieftain does not appear.

A daughter of Schiller is still living.—Her present title is the Baroness Emily de Gleichen-Russwurm, and she at present is living in Lower Franconia, in Bavaria. She has requested that all odds, etc., illustrative of her father's memory, should be sent to her for preservation.

Lydia Maria Child is to write the life of John Brown, on behalf of his family. Mrs. Child is already in possession of the facts and incidents of John Brown's earlier history, which she has only to complete by the story of his later career.

The Mormons are making a determined resistance to the authority of the federal courts. They are creating courts of their own, with concurrent jurisdiction, and giving to the Probate Courts common law and chancery jurisdiction.

There is a continued steady feeling in favor of making Texas one of the greatest wool-producing States in the Union. Mexican ewes are purchased at low prices, and crossed with males of the best breeds in the older wool-growing States.

A man named Watson was killed in St. Mary's county, Md., near the Great Mills Factory, on Friday night week, by another man named Bragg, with whom he was on a spree. Bragg was arrested and is now in jail at Leonardtown.

Mr. D. R. Goodloe, of Washington, states that he never subscribed \$100 to circulate Helper's infamous book. Nevertheless, his name is down among the list of subscribers, as published in the New York Herald.

A letter from the physician of the Uta Asylum, under date of November 28th, says, that Gerrit Smith was "greatly improved," and "is now quite himself."

On Monday evening, about 7 o'clock, a stranger called at the dwelling of Mr. Jackson Muselman, in Baltimore, and finding that Mr. M. was not at home desired to have an examination of his shawl with a view of purchasing it. His pleasing manners induced a compliance with his wishes, and after an examination he returned it to Mrs. M. with the remark that he would see her husband and return with him; but a very few moments had elapsed before he came back, saying that he had seen Mr. M. and had paid him for the article, which was given up to him. In a short time Mr. Muselman returned to his dwelling, and on being informed of the transaction found that he had been adroitly swindled.

The Cincinnati Price Current has the following: "A new trick was developed last season which is quite ingenious. In cutting up the logs, the whole of the back bone is left attached to one of the sides, and then by simply removing the ribs from the other, a clear side is made with less of the bone than in the usual way. The side with the ribs attached, is called a 'back bone,' or 'smoked as bacon,' thus compelling the innocent buyers to pay for more bone than they should. This having been brought to the notice of the pork inspectors of New York and New Orleans, they are determined, we understand, that they will pass no more pork so put up, in future."

A golden wedding was held at Easton (Mass.) on the 10th instant. The occasion was the eighty-third birthday of Moses C. Duxbury, Esq., and the fifty-ninth anniversary of his wedding day. His two sons, with their wives, sons and daughters, and so on in the line of relationship to great-grandchildren and daughters, to the number of about sixty, surprised the aged couple by approaching their dwelling, which is several miles from any depot, in companies of about ten each, from different directions and at different periods of time, each group loaded with good things. Arrived at the house, a grand merry making was had, to the great enjoyment of all.

Dr. Pomroy, Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, in Boston, who has resigned his office in consequence of certain charges against him, admits that some months ago he was accosted in the street by a female, and at her request accompanied her home. While in the parlor, engaged in conversation, a man entered, and, under threat of exposure, forced him to sign a note for \$500, which he subsequently paid.—Another female, by the representation that she was suffering from a dissipated husband, and her children were destitute, enlisted his feelings, and he opened a correspondence with her. Subsequently, by the advice of the late Mr. Chace, he paid her \$500 to get the letters back, and destroyed them. Dr. P. admits nothing further.

Mr. J. J. Maupin, lately an associate editor of the Cumberland Civilian and Telegraph, was seriously injured on Saturday last by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of his brother, whilst they were gunning in Hardy county, Va. The entire face of the subject was shattered, the head and face of the subject were shattered, destroying one eye and injuring the other. It was thought at first that the wounds would prove fatal.

Mrs. Ann McKenna, an emigrant from Ireland, nearly one hundred years of age, has just arrived at Philadelphia, accompanied by her youngest son, who is sixty-six years old. In a letter to the Press she says:—"Some of the papers, in speaking of my life, refer to the 'old saying' of using buttermilk to prolong life; in answer to which I have merely to say that I have never used any kind of milk except in tea, coffee, &c."

A Frenchman who lately visited Holland, says that there all the fish taken are killed, and rendered, in consequence, much superior in fineness and flavor. The Hollanders say that allowing the fish slowly to expire in torment, acts upon them as disease would act; softening the flesh and infecting them with principles of dissolution. The fisher killed in Holland by making an incision under the tail, or by thrusting a sharp needle in the head.

We regret to record the sudden demise of J. Ott Rockefeller, well known throughout Pa., as an extensive contractor of public works. The sad event was caused by leaping from a window of his sleeping apartment at Harrisburg, to the sidewalk, a distance of some thirty feet, while laboring under the excitement of mind produced by an attack of that peculiar disease, known as the nightmare.

The Webster Statue Committee met on Saturday, in Boston, to close up their affairs. There appears to be remaining in the hands of the Treasurer a balance of \$8,500, which was placed in the hands of the Executive Committee as a perpetual trust fund. The proceeds were to be devoted to keeping in repair the home of Webster at Marshfield.

Mr. Samuel F. Holbrook, of Boston, in a letter dated Sebastopol, Crimea, October 22d, says: "We are quite busy in raising the big ships, and I assure you that it is hard work. We have raised eleven ships of the line, and twenty-four smaller ships, such as frigates, corvettes, gun brigs and steamers." He gives a sad account of the immorality of the people now inhabiting Sebastopol.

There has not yet been any trace of the parties engaged in the manufacture and circulation of the new counterfeits on the Philadelphia Bank; and no additional light has been thrown on the transaction. The impression is that they were made in the city of Philadelphia, and sent South and West for circulation before they were put out in New York.

Mr. Thos. N. Neilson, an aged and highly respectable citizen of Baltimore, died on Thursday last. The deceased, for a number of years past, has resided on Federal Hill, where he was engaged in signalling, from his Observatory, the arrival of the various ships and steamers into port.

There is a large quantity of grain afloat upon the upper Lakes, for Oswego. It is estimated that 400,000 bushels of wheat, 135,000 bushels of corn, and 55,000 bushels of barley, is about the amount, not including the shipments expected from Canada.

The Boston Journal announces that another Arctic expedition will sail from the United States early next spring, under command of Dr. Hayes, the surgeon of the Kane expedition.

A prayer for the President of the United States has been introduced into the services of the English Church, at Geneva, Switzerland.

A Southern Confederacy proposed in S. C.

COLUMBIA, Dec. 1.—Resolutions were offered in the House of Representatives yesterday, looking to the establishment of a Southern confederacy, as follows: Resolved, That the State of South Carolina is ready to enter, together with the States of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, into the formation of a Southern Confederacy.

Resolved, That the Governor forward this resolution to the Southern executives. Another resolution, looking for official information as to the condition of the State generally, the amount of arms and ammunition in the same, and the number of men enrolled, the style of arms, &c.

The merchants of Richmond, Va., held a meeting on Wednesday, and appointed a committee to report upon the propriety of establishing a line of packets between that port and Liverpool. They also adopted the following resolutions: "That in future, so far as our capital and facilities will enable us to do so, we will import our own goods of foreign growth or manufacture, direct to this port. That those of us, who now have our goods in the hands of agents or manufacturers, awaiting exportation for the spring trade, pledge ourselves to use our best efforts to have the goods shipped to James river, even at an advanced rate of freight, and that from and after the 1st day of January next we bind ourselves not to give an order for foreign goods to any party without an understanding that such goods shall be shipped to James river when practicable, and, furthermore, in order to facilitate the object we have in view we hereby pledge ourselves to unite upon some one or more responsible shipping agents at Liverpool."

At a meeting of the Warrenton House Company, held at Fannin Court house on Saturday the 26th ult., the following officers were elected:—John Q. Marr, Captain; B. H. Shackelford, 1st Lieutenant; J. W. McGee, 2d Lieutenant; Geo. B. Horner, 1st Sergeant; John E. Fisher, 2d Sergeant; Frank White, 3d Sergeant; S. C. Linday, 4th Sergeant; H. L. Tompkins, 1st Corporal; John R. Turner, 2d Corporal; Geo. H. Carter, 3d Corporal; John M. Able, 4th Corporal; Wm. M. Bragg, Ensign; Dr. John Ward, Surgeon; John G. Beckham, Quartermaster; Wm. A. Jennings, Secretary and Treasurer.

Miss Lizzie Pettit, formerly of Charlottesville, who is well known as a dramatic reader, was seriously hurt on Friday morning last, at one of the New York hotels, while dressing in her chamber, when her dress took fire from the grate, and the flames enveloped her. Fortunately she was saved by persons in the drawing room where she rushed, who covered her up, and saved her, not without serious injury, however, to her person.

The Richmond and Danville Railroad Directors have passed the following: "That the Board of Directors of the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company will hereafter abstain from procuring supplies for the use of the Railroad Company from the North or non-slaveholding States, in all cases where they can be procured elsewhere of a suitable character and at reasonable rates of charge."

A Volunteer Company has been formed in the Langley neighborhood, Fairfax County. The officers are as follows:—Henry Jenkins, Captain; Wm. H. Sewell, 1st Lieut.; Jas. W. Nelson, 2d Lieut.; M. Delany, 3d Lieut. An excellent selection of officers.

The University of Virginia has 500 students, with a prospect of several more.—Of these about 400 are in the academic department, and the remainder divided about equally between law and medicine. Quite a number of the students are from Northern States.

Hamden Sidney College is, during the present session, enjoying a degree of prosperity without a parallel in his history. There are, at present, over 140 matriculates, with a prospect of a large addition after the Christmas vacation.

David Irick, an esteemed citizen of Harrisonburg, Va., died suddenly, on the 28th ult.

A "Home Guard" has been formed in Lynchburg, Va. It numbers eighty.

LOUISIANA DISPATCHES.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 1.—The steamer Lake City, hence for the Arkansas river, sunk opposite Granddole, six miles below here, last evening. The boat was valued at \$15,000, and was insured in Pittsburgh offices for \$11,000. Her cargo was badly damaged.

BOSTON, Dec. 1.—The steamer Europa arrived here at half past seven o'clock this evening. Her mails will go South by the morning train.

NORFOLK, Dec. 1.—Arrived, British brig Hope, eighteen days from St. Vincent. The market there was well supplied with American produce.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., Dec. 1.—At the town election yesterday, the Democratic ticket was almost entirely successful.

COLUMBIA, Dec. 1.—The trial of James Hood, the engineer of the steamer Nashville, for murder on the high seas, has commenced.

MILLEDGEVILLE, Dec. 1.—Choice, the murderer of Webb, has been pardoned by the State Legislature, but the Governor has vetoed the bill.

Manufacture of Powder and Arms.

There is not one powder mill in the Union, South of Delaware, nor is there a manufacture of arms, or a foundry for cannon, South of Harper's Ferry. Why should not powder be manufactured in the South, as well as in the North? The North has to import saltpetre and charcoal, the main ingredients of powder, while there are large saltpetre mines in Virginia, Kentucky, and we have no doubt in other slaveholding States, and wood enough to supply charcoal for the wants of the world. Besides being an article essential to our defense, the manufacture of powder is a money making business. We hear of the blowing up of Northern powder mills almost constantly, but yet the owners go to work, repair damages, and set their works a going again, thus showing that with all its risks the manufacture of the article is profitable. Why, then, should the South not manufacture arms? We have all the materials necessary for making them, and can readily command the mechanical skill necessary to their construction. These things ought to be looked to, and our State Legislatures could materially aid in getting these manufactures so essential to the South, under way by judicious bounties, and friendly legislation.—*Raleigh Register.*

THE SUPREMACY OF THE LAWS.—The Rev. Dr. Bacon, in his discourse to his people on Thanksgiving day, took the opportunity sharply to rebuke what he denominated an "unnatural, unchristian, unchristian spirit," manifested at the North in regard to the tragical affair at Harper's Ferry. He specified three particulars in which we were in the wrong: 1st. In denying the fear occasioned by the invasion. 2d. In blaming Virginia for maintaining her laws. 3d. In sympathizing with the insurgents in their unlawful act. On each of these points the doctor spoke with great plainness and solemnity; and many, if not most, of the large congregation present felt that the rebuke was just, timely and important.—*Hartford Conn. Courier.*

We see it stated that after the municipal election in New York, a meeting will likely be held there, of the friends of Law, Order, and the Constitution, which will rebuke the recent exhibitions of fanaticism by the abolitionists.

A Mormon advertisement reads as follows: "To let rooms for two gentlemen and four wives, or rooms for one gentleman and six wives."

## Virginia News.

The N. Y. Pulpit on the Harper's Ferry Invasion. From the New York Observer. "On Thursday last, the day of public Thanksgiving, many of the clergy of this city took the opportunity of expressing their sentiments freely on the subject of the recent disturbance of the public peace by the invasion of a neighboring State. It was fitting to embrace this occasion for such a purpose. Among the numerous causes for national Thanksgiving, not the least and one of the greatest, is that a foul conspiracy designed to plunge the country into the horrors of civil war, has been recently detected, its chief participants arrested, and all the immediate actors put to death or held in the firm grasp of justice. For every Christian patriot gives God thanks out of the depths of his heart. Had the conspiracy gained the end expected by its infamous authors, instead of a Thanksgiving, we should already have had the country in arms, and many portions of it drenched in servile or fraternal blood. In view of this fact, that saved the pastors of this, and other cities, to make the day an occasion for giving utterance to their sentiments on this momentous theme."

There is a sense in which the pulpit may be truly said to reflect the sentiments of the people. Our city congregations, more than those in the country, are formed on the principles of elective affinity: each church is more homogeneous than in places where there is but one of each Christian denomination; and it is the happiness of our churches if a man does not find in the pulpit the doctrines he likes, he can suit himself elsewhere. Thus it comes to pass that our pulpits and pews are of one mind on all the great questions that stir the heart of the age.

Of the five hundred pulpits of this city, we believe that not one uttered a word of approbation of the John Brown invasion of Virginia. We do not speak with positive knowledge of any great number. But we know that the radical pulpit is the noisiest and runs the most readily into the newspapers: the sympathizers with the conspiracy are blatant in their denunciations of the law that has the murderers in its righteous hands. And it is probable that the most of those who prostituted the pulpit and the sanctuary to the defence and encouragement of crime, have been chronicled among the "men of the times," the "champions of equal rights," and the "defenders of liberty."

Of the five hundred preachers in this city we have heard of but two, who ventured to give the sanction of their pulpits to the support of the highest crime perpetrated in this country since the treason of Benedict Arnold. Once these preachers, of course, was the man who curses from Union Square, and the other is still so obscure that we will not give him the notoriety he would be glad to get by a notice in the newspapers. On the other hand, we have heard of a large number of the most commanding, influential, popular and intelligent pulpits of this city, that they have explicit, uniform, earnest and unanimous testimony against the conspiracy in all its features, designs, plans and acts. And with one voice they consented to the sentence of death pronounced upon the conspirators as just and necessary. Whatever may be the difference of opinion as to the policy or expediency of executing the sentence, there is but one opinion among Christian patriots, that these convicted men deserve it, according to the laws of God and man. The Rev. Dr. Osgood (Unitarian) said:

"If I asked more particularly what I think of the attempt to excite a servile insurrection in Virginia, I reply that I condemn it altogether, and that no sophism can be feebler than that which justifies the deed on account of worthy personal traits in the originator. The deed is lawless and murderous."

The Rev. Dr. Parker (Presbyterian), in connection with some remarks from which we dissent, said of the invaders: "They have nevertheless so violated those human laws which are indispensable to preserve the States from anarchy, as to render themselves justly liable to the penalty of death."

Rev. Doctor Tyng (Episcopalian), with strong denunciations of slavery, protested against the violence of fanaticism; he said: "As a Christian it was not his duty to make it a subject of acerbity or denunciation or ribaldrous reproach. As an American citizen he had no right to encourage sectional animosity. He would not do evil that good might come—he would not give the peace of God and man—would never give his sanction to any violence or tumult, would take no sword but the sword of the Spirit—and he could no more justify in others than in himself a violence and bloodshed from which his soul shrunk back in abhorrence. He could not be a partaker in other men's sins, even if the object was to give liberty to his enslaved fellow man. The day will come when the patient sufferer of wrong will be better than the wondrous, meanwhile, they that take the sword must perish by the sword."

Rev. Dr. Potts (Presbyterian), whose views we have given at greater length in this paper, declared that he regarded the execution of the conspirators "a just and necessary penalty."

We have been thus particular in summing up the opinions of the metropolitan pulpit, that we may show the country the Christian sentiment of this city. It is a fairer, fuller and more satisfactory expression of feeling than it would be possible to gather from any promiscuous assemblage that might be gathered, however large and respectable. We now know there is not a handful of men in the North, so base as to approve of the John Brown conspiracy and invasion. We have thought it might be well to hold public meetings all over the land, to give utterance to the indignation with which the crime is reprobated, but we find no pulpits and no presses entitled to respect, which justify it, and we may consider the Thanksgiving sermons of New York as the united testimony of the intelligent Christian people of the North in favor of the Union, the law, and the right.

Instead of feeling that the chief conspirator will be defied or even exalted to the rank of a martyr, the day is not distant, and even now is, when every upright, virtuous citizen of the United States, who is not blinded by fanaticism, will regard him and his confederates, as convicted traitors, whose designs were baffled by the good Providence of God."

The Marriage Tariff. We observe that a minister in Washington, D. C., lately, in a sort of anniversary sermon, gave to his people some information which they did not expect to hear. This was the amount of his income from marriage fees, which he thus stated: "I have married during my pastorate here, three hundred and fifty-one couples. Many persons are under the impression that this marrying business is a source of large revenue to the preacher. I can only say for myself, I have no hesitation in stating, as a matter of fact, that my marriage fees have not averaged \$80 a year."

There are many who would rejoice if their fees averaged the one-half of that amount. But it seems to us that the subject is one not to be talked about in public. The fee for the service is a *quidam honorarium*, as the lawyers say, and should be left entirely to the custom and feelings of the happy man who gets his share of heaven's best gift. A minister's revenue from such matters concerns no one but himself, and inquiry about it is the next door to impertinence.—*Christian Intelligencer.*

## The Virginia Legislature and its Duty.

The duties that will devolve upon the General Assembly will be of the most various and weighty character, demanding the exercise of calmness, discretion and wisdom, and an enlightened and comprehensive patriotism. The question of the defenses of the State will naturally attract the earliest attention, and should be met and disposed of without parade, bluster, or wrangling. And yet we doubt not, that not less than seventy-five or a hundred members will come here with their pockets stuffed with Buncombe resolutions, each hoping and aiming to outstrip all others in manufacturing capital for the part of members, as tending necessarily to obstruct if not ultimately defeat all needful and useful legislation, and to expose us to the ridicule and contempt of the whole country; and especially to the people of the Northern States. The late murderous Abolition foray at Harper's Ferry has very naturally produced unusual excitement and indignation throughout the State; and yet it is to be hoped that members of the Legislature will not feel calmly, prudently and wisely, in all things, and not suffer themselves to be brought into disrepute. As for ourselves, we trust that not a single resolution in reference to the Harper's Ferry affair will be offered in the House, by any member of any party. Let not even the name of Harper's Ferry be named in either branch of the General Assembly—for Buncombe resolutions and reports and speeches are of no avail.—You might pass a thousand resolutions on the subject of the invasion at Harper's Ferry, and what would they amount to, in a practical point of view? Our deliberate proceeding, as we have said, is to be done in the way of preparation for the defense of the State, should be done without vain talk and ridiculous bluster. It is the only method we can possibly adopt, to impress our Northern enemies that we are in earnest—that we mean what we say—that action not words, is our motto now. For long years, the Virginia Legislature has been passing threatening and flaming resolutions on the subject of Southern rights, and what effect have these resolutions had upon Virginia action? We counsel no extreme or imprudent measures either on the part of the Legislature or the people. Our only wish is, that there be an end put to talk and bluster. If we do not mean to do any thing, then, say any thing. But if we do mean to do any thing, then do it calmly, quietly, effectively, dignifiedly, and whatever may be done will command the unanimous sanction of our own people, and compel the respect of our enemies.

We have heretofore suggested the propriety of putting the Commonwealth in a state of defence, without unnecessary delay. What particular measures should be adopted in the premises, is for the discretion and wisdom of the Legislature to determine. That our volunteer system should be encouraged and aided to the fullest practicable extent, is the opinion, we believe, of the entire State. That the militia system should be reformed and re-organized is equally an opinion. In a word, the people should be provided with arms—the best that money can procure—and subjected to stated drill service, so as to render our whole white male population, of suitable age, efficient soldiers, ready for action in any emergency, and on the shortest notice. We think too, that the State Armory requires to be over-hauled and improved in many essential respects. In short, whatever, after calm investigation and consideration, may be thought necessary for the proper defence of the Commonwealth and the protection of her citizens, should be adopted by the Legislature without hesitation. These preparations for State defence will necessarily cost money, and perhaps, a good deal more than the Commonwealth will foot the bill with pride and pleasure. To be sure—all expense not really necessary to the main object, should be studiously avoided. We only insist, and the people insist, that both State and people should be put in a state of preparation for any emergency which the events of the future may precipitate upon us.

The question of internal improvement is of the very first magnitude. That ample appropriations should be made to complete the works already in progress, is what all intelligent and reflecting minds will at once admit.

Other subjects of importance will attract the attention of the Legislature, which we have not time to allude to now. We take occasion to suggest, however, that the Legislature will be composed of men, a very large majority of whom, as heretofore, can best subserve the interests of their constituents by lying low and keeping dark—that is, by not thrusting themselves forward in the way of making motions and offering resolutions, and otherwise making themselves conspicuous and ridiculous, to no useful purpose whatever.—*Rich. Whig.*

Modern "Prophecy."

Rev. John Cumming has put forth a new work entitled "The Great Tribulation, or things coming on the Earth," in which he avows the opinion that the grand consummation of the ages is near at hand, and that the globe on which we dwell is rapidly approaching its final catastrophe. According to the Doctor:—

"We live under the dispensation of the last Apocalyptic vial, which was poured out in the year 1848, and from that time to 1867 we may expect to feel its intensest effects. Among the signs of the last day, according to the Scottish seer, are the potato rot, the true blight, cholera, diphtheria, and other diseases of various types, from the Lisbon fever of 1857 to the general degeneracy of physical health. The Russian war, the quarrel with China, the revolt of India, the commercial panic or 'earthquake' of 1857, together with the incessant murders, suicides, and poisonings, with which the papers teem, indicate that the coming of the 'Son of Man' is not far off. These ideas are illustrated by Dr. Cumming in a series of discourses, as remarkable for their gorgeous and appalling rhetoric, as for their destitution of reasoning, and their ingenious perversion of facts. Their lurid coloring appeals to the imagination with a ghastly power, like one of Martin's pictures, but they afford little instruction, and no material for health of mind."

MARINE LOSSES IN NOVEMBER.—The number of serious casualties to American seagoing vessels, reported during the last month, has not been equalled since the months of December and January, 1856-7, when the number reported was 53 in December and 70 in January. The vessels reported this month as total losses and missing, amount to 55 of all classes. The only month that approached the past one since 1856 was April, 1857, when the total losses numbered 52 vessels. The casualties last month class as follows:—1 steamer, 12 ships, 7 barks, 11 brigs, and 24 schooners, of these 34 were wrecked, 2 burnt, 1 missing, 7 abandoned, 5 sunk, 3 captured, and 3 sunk by collisions. Out of the 37 vessels reported gone ashore last month, only five were got ashore again, one of the latter being the ship Heidelberg. Of